CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A drop emitting apparatus comprising:

an ink jet printhead;

a plurality of on-board ink reservoirs for supplying ink to the ink jet printhead;

a plurality of remote ink containers;

a plurality of ink supply conduits fluidically connected between the remote ink containers and the on-board ink reservoirs;

a common air vent, connected to each one of said plurality of remote ink containers, for venting said each one of said plurality of remote ink containers as ink is supplied to the on-board ink reservoirs from said remote ink containers.

2. The drop emitting apparatus of claim 1 further including a plurality of ink vent lines connected to said common vent, wherein each one of said ink vent lines is connected and associated to one of said plurality of remote ink containers.

3. The drop emitting apparatus of claim 2 wherein the plurality of remote ink containers, the common air vent conduit and the plurality of ink vent lines are formed as an integral structure.

4. The drop emitting apparatus of claim 2 wherein each one of said plurality of ink vent lines are routed to said common in maze type configuration to prevent mixing of inks from one of said plurality of remote ink containers to another one of said plurality of remote ink containers, if said drop emitting apparatus is tipped.

5. The drop emitting apparatus of claim 1 wherein the ink jet printhead comprises a piezoelectric ink jet printhead.

6. The drop emitting apparatus of claim 1 wherein the on-board ink reservoirs and the remote ink containers are configured to contain melted solid ink.

7. The drop emitting apparatus of claim 3 further including a heating structure adjacent the integral structure.

8. The drop emitting apparatus of claim 1 wherein the remote ink containers are selectively pressurized.